

“Lifestyles”

**Creative Living with
Sheryl Borden**

Crafts Section I



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Due to the size of this section, there are 2 different PDF files. Example: Paintability is page I-3, which means it's in Part I on page 3. Ribbon Flowers is page II-8, which means it's in Part II, page 8.

Paintability™

Paintability, the easy way for even the non-painter to successfully achieve the look of Handpainted Decor™ in just 3 easy steps!



Using Paintability Design Applicators™

Apply Paint: Apply a thin, even coat of paint on the raised surface of the Design Applicator using a Paintability Sponge.

Apply Design: Press Design Applicator onto a piece of scrap paper for a test print. Press evenly to ensure contact with surface. Reapply paint to applicator then apply to surface. Do not “rock”. Lift applicator directly off surface. Let paint dry. Reapply paint between each design application. It is best to apply all designs on a surface using the Applicators before you “Color In” the design.

“Color In” your Design: On a foam plate or wax palette, mix each color using 6-8 drops of Paintability Color Magic to 1 drop of paint. We suggest mixing paint into Color Magic. Using a brush, simply ‘Color In’ the design. Clean your brush with water and blot dry between colors. Multiple layers of color may be applied. Let paint dry between layers.

Design Applicators™ -

SRP \$4.99

Floral themed to capture today’s popular garden trend. High quality rubber stamp with unique features:

- Specially designed for easy paint application.
 - Foam backed for flat and curved surfaces.
 - Exclusive detail indicators.
- 32 separate sets of Design Applicators are available.



Adding Detail: You may add detail by adding multiple layers of paint with Color Magic as described above or by shading and highlighting with Detail Magic. Paintability Detail Indicator Dots show basic placement for shading on the design.

Paintability Books - SRP• \$7.99

People often struggle to determine how to transfer their ideas to Home Decor pieces. Paintability Books and Try Me Kits show even the non-painter how to successfully achieve the look of Handpainted Decor.

The Paintability line features 6 style-specific “How To” project books bringing together all of the Paintability products. Each book features a laminated practice area.



Paint Pot Sets - SRP: \$6.99

Three custom palettes take the guess work out of color selection! Each palette contains 16 colors that complement each other and were specifically chosen to reflect today’s home decor color trends. Palettes feature Delta Ceramcoat Acrylic Paint, America’s Favorite Acrylic Paint™.

- Old Romance
- New Traditions
- Bright Ideas



COURTESY: Tera Leigh Paintability

Scents of the Holiday

One of my favorite memories of the holidays is the scents coming from the kitchen. This is a gift that will help us bring back these memories even past the holiday season.

Scented Gel Jars

Gather these supplies:

- Jars with lids
- 2 cups distilled water
- 4 packages plain (unflavored) gelatin
- 50 drops essential oil or potpourri oil
- Food coloring



Steps:

1. Heat one cup of the distilled water in a saucepan until almost boiling. Add the desired coloring. Remove from heat and add the other cup of water and the gelatin. Stir until dissolved.
2. Divide the oil into the jars (use more or less depending on how strong you want the scent and how big your jars are.)
3. Add the gelatin mixture to the jars.
4. Place in the refrigerator for about two hours.
5. Remove the jars from the refrigerator and cover with their lids. Store them at room temperature.
6. To release the scent, remove the lid. The gelatin will slowly dry out and release the scent as it dries.
7. For decoration, cover the open lid with lace. This will still allow the scent to release.



Cinnamon Ornaments

Cinnamon ornaments are easy to make. They smell great and last for a long time. Use on a tree, display in a bowl or basket, make a garland or tie on a gift.

Puffy Cinnamon Ornaments

- 4 cups flour
- 4 cups cinnamon
- 1 cup salt
- 2 Tbsp. nutmeg
- 2 Tbsp. cloves
- 1 1/2 cups lukewarm water



Sift together the flour, cinnamon, salt, nutmeg and

cloves. Add enough water until the dough is the consistency of molding clay. Roll out to 1/8-1/4-inch thick and cut with cookie cutters. Insert a straw at the top if you'd like to string them for hanging on a tree or add to packages. Bake at 300 degrees for one hour.

Old Fashioned Salt Dough Ornaments

- 2 cups flour
- 1 cup salt
- 1 cup water



Mix until dough forms. Cut out gingerbread men and add raisin or whole clove buttons. Bake at 350 degrees for about 25-35 minutes until dough is hardened. Cool and spray with clear enamel. Tie bows around their necks using scraps of calico or homespun.

Cookie Mixes

Cookie mixes continue to be a favorite. It is the perfect gift because it is consumable as well as a time saver for the recipient. Make them for yourself, too. You will enjoy these throughout the year.

Jolly Gingerbread Men Mix

- 3 1/2 cups flour, divided
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 1 Tbsp. baking soda
- 1 cup brown sugar, packed
- 2 tsp. ginger
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 1 tsp. allspice



Sift together 2 cups flour, baking powder and baking soda. Spoon into a one-quart wide-mouth canning jar, packing down tightly. Next layer brown sugar, packing tightly. Blend together remaining flour, ginger, cinnamon and allspice; layer over brown sugar and secure lid.

Attach a gift tag with the following instructions: Cream together one stick butter or margarine, 3/4 cup molasses and one egg, stir in dry mix; dough will be stiff. Cover and refrigerate one hour. Roll dough to 4-inch thickness on a lightly floured surface, adding additional flour if dough is too sticky. Cut with cookie cutters and place on a lightly oiled baking sheet. Bake at 350 degrees for 10-12 minutes. Makes 5-6 dozen cookies.

Chocolatey-Peanut Butter Mix

- 1 cup brown sugar, packed
- 1 1/2 cups powdered sugar
- 3/4 cup cocoa
- 1 1/2 cups flour
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 1/4 tsp. salt



In a one-quart wide-mouth canning jar, layer the first 2 ingredients, packing down as tightly as possible. Add cocoa, pack down, then wipe the inside of the jar with a paper towel to remove any excess cocoa from the sides. Sift together the flour, baking powder and salt, add to jar; pack down tightly.

Attach a gift tag with the following instructions: Cream together one stick butter or margarine, 2 eggs and 2 cups peanut butter; stir in dry mix. Shape into balls and place on a lightly oiled baking sheet, press down with a fork. Bake at 350° for 15-20 minutes. Makes approximately 1 1/2 to 3 dozen cookies.

Traditional Sugar Cookies

- 3/4 cup shortening (part butter or margarine softened)
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 tsp. vanilla or 1/2 tsp. lemon extract



- 2 1/2 cups flour
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 1 tsp. teaspoon salt

Mix thoroughly shortening, sugar, eggs and flavoring. Blend in flour, baking powder and salt. Cover and chill at least 1 hour. Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Roll dough 1/8 inch thick on lightly floured cloth-covered board. Cut into desired shapes. Place on un-greased baking sheet. Bake 6 to 8 minutes or until very light brown. Makes about 4 dozen 3-inch cookies.

Soap Making Basics

Gather These Supplies:

- Creamy Coconut Soap (white) base
- Glycerin Soap (transparent) base
- Color chips or liquid soap colorant
- Natural additives of your choice
- Soap molds of your choice
- Glass measuring cups (one or two cups)
- Metal spoon for stirring & knife for cutting
- Microwave or double boiler

Steps:

1. Slice the soap base into thin strips for quick and easy melting. Some soap is premarked into small squares.
2. Place sliced soap into a Pyrex measuring cup and microwave for approximately 45 seconds to 1 minute, depending on the amount of soap. Remove and stir lightly. Continue microwaving for 15-second intervals until melted to avoid boiling over.
3. Remove from microwave and stir lightly to melt any remaining soap pieces.
4. Once soap is melted, immediately add thin shavings of your chosen color chips or a few drops of liquid colors and blend. You may need to reheat the soap for about 10 seconds in the microwave to completely dissolve the color chip slivers.
5. Just before pouring your soap into molds, add a few drops of fragrance oil and blend. Add until desired level of fragrance is reached.
6. If you are adding natural additives, let the soap cool a little before you add it so that it will not settle to the bottom.
7. Pour soap into molds. If soap has started to solidify before pouring into molds, simply re-melt it.
8. Let the soap cool and harden completely before removing from your mold. The soap will pop out easily when cool and completely set. For a fast set, allow the soap to cool for 1 minute, then cover with plastic wrap and place in the refrigerator to harden, approximately 10 minutes.
9. Soaps can be layered or marbled by using different colors. To layer, let first layer solidify before topping with second layer. Chunks of colored soaps can also be added to soaps for effects.

**COURTESY: Connie Moyers
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Mosaic

General Instructions

These instructions are the fundamental steps used to complete a basic mosaic. From these steps, you will be able to build more advanced skills for future projects. It's very important to remember that these instructions are only general. Before starting a project, read carefully through the instructions. Each project has variations that make it different from the last, and additional tools and materials may be required.

Preparing To Create Your Mosaic

Before you start a plaster mosaic, you must consider your work area.

- Plaster can make a considerable mess in both its wet and dry form, so spread out newspaper during the plaster application. This will make the clean-up process easy. Just roll up the mess after the work is complete.
- Sanding should be done outside, because of the dust that will be generated. Breathing plaster dust poses a serious health risk and should not be taken lightly.
- If you apply the plaster outside, avoid doing so in direct sunlight. The sun will dry out the plaster too quickly, giving you a crumbly texture to carve into.
- If you have completely carved your design and you're in a hurry to move on, set your project in the sun or in front of a fan to hurry the drying process. This will allow you to sand that much sooner.

Mosaic Wall Clock

This wall clock was inspired by mosaics made from broken china plates. The edges of the mosaic are rounded, and the design is reminiscent of a rose china pattern. Notice that the colors are blended

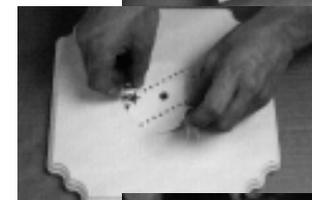
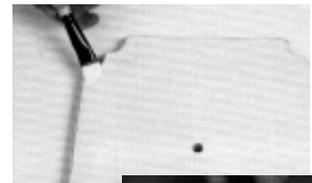
rather than each piece being made up of a solid color. This visually allows the pieces to work together, creating the rose image.

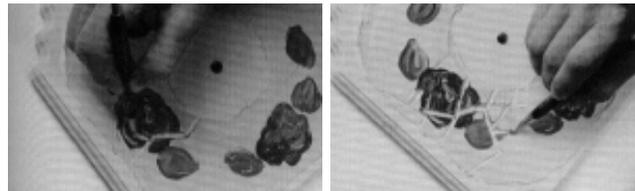
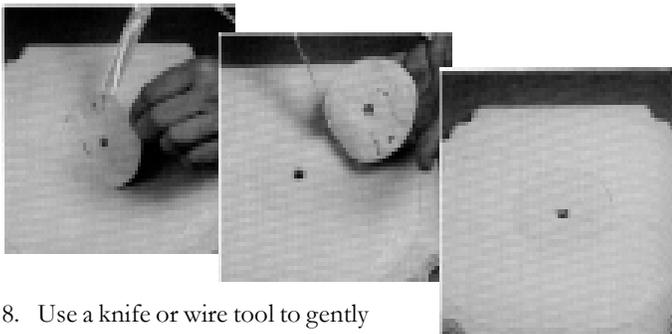
Supplies:

- Wood clock plaque*
- Clock mechanisms, including clock number decal*
- Plaster compound
- Artist's pigment: Titanium White*
- Artist's paint: Spring Rose, Rose Garden, Berry Wine, Old Ivy, Hunter Green*
- Clear acrylic spray
- Wire tool*
- Brushes: filbert*
- Sponge brush
- Large putty knife
- Medium and fine grit sandpaper

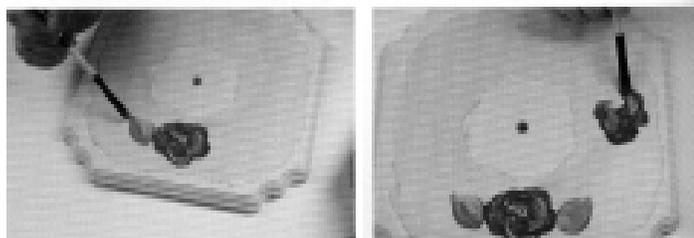
* Denotes items used in this project:

1. Make four copies of the rose design (follows)
2. Seal the clock plaque with two coats of water-based sealer, sanding between coats.
3. Use the sponge brush to paint two coats of Titanium White pigment to ensure good coverage.
4. Cut around the number decal, and peel the backing off. The number decal will have a hole in the center, where the clock mechanism will go through. Place the numbers on the edge of a clean surface for later use. The backing will be used as a stencil for the center of the clock. Spray the number backing with a very light mist of stencil adhesive, and allow it to dry.
5. The clock plaque will have a hole, where the clock mechanism will go through. Line up the stencil, made from number backing, with the hole that is in the center of the clock plaque.
6. For the base coat, mix 1 cup of plaster compound with 1 tablespoon of Titanium White pigment until the color is well blended.
7. Use the large putty knife to spread an even layer of plaster over the surface, rounding the corners. Spread the plaster towards the center of the clock, barely covering the edges of the number stencil.



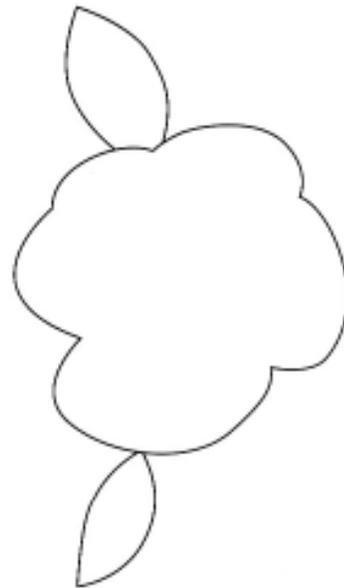


8. Use a knife or wire tool to gently peel up an edge and then pull it completely off the face of the plaque. Allow the base coat to dry before proceeding.
9. Use the medium grit sandpaper to sand the surface smooth.
10. For the top coat, mix 1 cup of plaster to 1/2 teaspoon of Spring Rose paint until the colors are well blended.
11. Use the putty knife to spread a very thin layer of the Spring Rose plaster over the base coat, thinning the layer out as you move to the edges.
12. Once the plaster has firmed up for a minute or two, transfer the design to the front of the clock. Center a rose on each side of the clock, with the leaves touching.



13. Quickly paint in the roses. Allow the colors to blend and swirl with each other.

14. Use the wire tool to make random tile cuts. Keep the pieces in a shard shape to mimic broken china.
15. Round off the corners to give the mosaic a plate shape. Allow the mosaic to completely dry before continuing.
16. Use the wire tool to clean out the plaster from the grout joints, the circle for the number decal, and the rounded corners.
17. Use the fine grit sandpaper to smooth out any ridges or bumps.
18. Once the surface is smooth, touch up the flowers and leaves, allowing the colors to blend with each other.
19. Spray the surface with two or more coats of clear acrylic sealer.
20. Take the clock numbers, and carefully center them in the middle of the clock, lining up the holes.
21. Attach the clock mechanism to the plaque, according to the manufacturer's directions.



**COURTESY: Kristin Peck
Author & Designer**